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Jammu & Kashmir	Andaman & Nicobar Admn.
Karnataka	Chandigarh
Kerala	Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Madhya Pradesh	Daman & Diu
Maharashtra	Lakshdweep
Orissa	
Punjab	
Rajasthan	
Tamil Nadu	
Uttar Pradesh	
West Bengal	
Delhi	
Pondicherry	
Nagaland	
Meghalaya	

[English]

Misappropriation of Funds in Super Bazar

3311. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a news item captioned "CBI frames 5 officials of Super Bazar" appearing in the *Times of India* dated April 15, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the amount of fraud, misappropriation of funds which came to the notice of the Government;

(d) whether any FIR has been lodged in this regard;

(e) whether these officers have not been suspended even after the registration of FIR by the CBI; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) According to information furnished by the Super Bazar, Delhi, the surprise check and inspection conducted by the Vigilance Department of their branch at New Friends Colony, Delhi, had revealed that branch officials of the Super Bazar through connivance and conspiracy as well as manipulation committed various acts of commission and omission resulting in mis-appropriation and stock shortages amounting to Rs. 6,17,094.67. On the basis of the above findings, 5 officials of the Super Bazar, Delhi working in that branch during the period were put under suspension on 4.11.96.

(d) to (f) In view of the seriousness of the matter, the Super Bazar Management referred the case to the CBI which has registered an FIR on 24.4.1997 involving 3 officials who were already under suspension and two more accounts officials pertaining to the Regional Distribution Centre of Super Bazar at Trilok Puri.

[Translation]

Guidelines for OBC Certificates

3312. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines prescribed for getting Other Backward Caste certificates for the people;

(b) whether any time limit has been fixed for the scrutiny of such requests; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The guidelines for getting Other Backward Caste certificate has been prescribed and circulated to all State Governments/Union Territories as at Statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) No Sir, since issuance of OBC certificate falls under the purview of the respective State Governments and Union Territory Administration, they are expected to issue these certificates in the shortest possible time after conducting necessary verifications.